Commercial



Mortiser

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HONOLULU, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1895.

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111 FORT STREET, and played a stream of water upon the rows of seats and the stage. Everything seemed to take fire at once. The front, back and sides of the building were in flames at one time, P. O. Box 297 CONSOLIDATED Soda Water Works Company, Limited

Esplanade, Corner Allen and Fort Sts. HOLLISTER & CO. was necessary to consume the whole stage with its effects. 3710 1558-1y Agents.

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Just the things suitable for the holidays. 208 MERCHANT ST., Between Fort and Kaahumanu streets. 3861-3m

Destruction of the Opera House by Fire Yesterday Morning.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE UNKNOWN.

Honolulu's Only Place of Amusement in Ruins-A Fact That is Universally Regretted-The Owners Carried Insurance for \$12,000-An Early Blaze.

It is a fact very much to be regretted that the Music Hall, Honolulu's only theater, which has stood since the year 1880, is now a complete ruin. Although the walls are left standing a glance at the interior will show nothing but heaps of twisted iron and burnt wood lying about in rank disorder. A little over an hour was sufficient to render the Music Hall what

scene, but they made up for their tardiness in the work they did. It is admitted by those who were present at the fire that they had the best streams of water, and did very efficient work.

In a little over an hour the fire was under control, and one engine was left to look after the smouldering remains.

The streets in the vicinity of the burning building were lined with spectators anxious to catch a glimpse

of the fire. Special mention should be made of the gallant efforts of the firemen under the most discouraging circumstances. Although the force of the water was very weak, they did not falter for one moment. They got as near to the fire as it was possible for any human being

to do. The Music Hall, completed in 1881, with E. B. Thomas in charge of both the stone and wood work, was owned by a stock company called the Music Hall Association, of which the late S. G. Wilder, of this city, was president. It soon became a well-known fact that the owners of the building were getting deeper and deeper into debt

getting deeper and deeper into debt every day, and soon it was learned that the Music Hall was mortgaged to C. R. Bishop & Co. Later, the mort-gage was assigned to H. A. Wide-mann, who, on July 28, 1883, had it foreclosed and the building sold at public auction to Wm. G. Irwin and John D. Spreckels for the sum of

it is at present—a complete ruin.

Yesterday morning at about 7:15,
Charles Wichart, a member of the mounted police force, while going

The building was insured for \$12,000, divided as follows: London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., in the office of the late C. O. Berger, \$3,000; Royal Fire Insurance Co., \$6,000, and



HAWAIIAN OPERA HOUSE DURING CONFLAGRATION. INSTANTAN-EOUS PHOTOGRAPH MADE EXPRESSLY FOR THE "ADVERTISER" BY A. W. BOLSTER, FORT STREET.

from his home to the police station | Lion Insurance Co., \$3,000, both in the for the purpose of reporting for duty, office of J. S. Walker. for the purpose of reporting for duty, noticed a cloud of smoke issuing from the tower of the Music Hall as he was nearing that building. He put spurs to his horse and made for the engine house of Company No. 1. Finding that this company had gone out for practice with the engine, he telephoned to No. 2, which responded immediately to the call, arriving on the

scene about 7:25 o'clock. The other companies arrived soon after. Before the building was entered by the firemen, smoke was issuing from every door and window, showing that the fire had started a long time before the discovery by Wichart. As soon as the windows and doors were brok-en open, great tongues of fire leaped forth, and for a moment drove the men back. Rallying, the gallant firemen rushed into the auditorium

necessitating streams of water from

The brightest blaze was seen when the drop curtain and the scenery took fire. Five minutes seemed all that

In a short time it was evident to every one that nothing could be done to save the building. Had the force of the streams directed on the fire at the start been good, there might have been some chance; but even then it is doubtful, for the fire had gained such good headway, and the draught was a stubborn enemy to cope

with in such an open building. The attention of the firemen was directed to the prevention of any spreading of the fire, to buildings in the vicinity. The only house that seemed in immediate danger of catching fire was the old Gibson residence. Several sparks fell on the roof and began to burn the shingles, but a broom brigade, headed by Will Chamberlain, of the ADVERTISER office, climbed up

and removed the danger. While the men in the front hall were playing a stream of water into or two of them.

Rumors were abroad of a gasoline tank in the front part of the building. Guards were placed at the corners to learned that there was no danger from the tank, and the crowd proceeded to get nearer.

completely, and a little while after that there was nothing to be seen of were almost the last to arrive on the to order.

When the Music Hall was announced as completed, the pleasure-loving public of this city was very much pleased at the thought that the old tumble-down theatre which used to stand on the ground now occupied by the Masonic Temple, was to be succeeded by such a substantial build-

The first performance given in the new theatre was a play called "Marble Heart," a melodrama of the Adelphi type, presented by the California Theatre Company under the manage-ment of C. B. Wells.

This company scored a great success and played to good houses until the small-pox struck the city. From that time the audiences dwindled, and in a short period the Government gave the order to have the theatre closed. It will be remembered by those that

for the benefit of the building fund of the new theatre and gave the gross receipts of \$812 to those in charge, paying their own expenses. The first performance after the small-pox epidemic was the opera "Pinafore," given by the Amateur Musical Society of this city; A. T. Atkinson being the principal worker in the getting up of the play.

When the Music Hall was conducted as a steely somewhat Hudge P. F.

ed as a stock company Judge R. F. Bickerton, Godfrey Brown, J. F. Brown and Dr. McWayne had charge of its affairs and took great interest in providing amusements. The father of the Wall boys was architect of the

building.

Honolulu people regret very much that the only theatre in the city is no more. Much more do they regret it on account of the fact that ill-luck befell the first owners of the Music Hall, and further on account of the fact that W. G. lrwin says, "I have had enough of opera houses."

The origin of the fire is unknown.

More Prisoners Released.

Fred Wundenberg, George Ritman and Jim Brown, political

the auditorium a large patch of plaster for several weeks, were released fell from the roof, nearly striking one yesterday morning on their own given. First saw Wilcox on night recognizance. Besides these, two manalo; saw Kaili same night outold retainers of the ex-queen and side the house on the beach; Wilcox, warn the crowd away. It was soon two young native boys were dis- myself, George Townsendand a native charged.

At about 8 o'clock the roof fell in men that they do not have to send sented to do the work; I told him to abroad any more for rubber stamps. The Chinese Fire Company No. 5 The Gazette Company make them after that.

Kaili and Hutchinson on Trial for Misprision of Treason.

ACCUSED DECLINED TO PLEAD.

Session of the Military Court Yesterday Rather Monotonous-Attorney Kane's First Appearance-Hutchinson's Case Not Yet Finished.

The Rev. S. K. Kaili was before the Military Commission yesterday morning on the charge of misprision of treason. S. K. Kane appeared as his counsel. The preliminary proceedings of the trial were quickly cleared up, the usual objection to the jurisdiction of the court meeting with the usual overruling in very short time. The objection was the exact counterpart of that offered by Mr. Neumann.

The prisoner, on advice of counsel, declined to plead, and a plea of not guilty was entered to each charge and specification.

Sam Nowlein was the first witnes called:-Lived at Washington Place prior to arrest; was conspiring against the Government with Rickard, Seward and Gulick; heard arms were coming 1st of December in a schooner from some foreign port. The landing of the arms and the incidents with the event was told.

Johnny Paaoao:-Live at Kahala; saw many natives there Thursday; Kaili was among them; was at Kahala that night; slept there; was wakened by a man named Kasiike knocking on the door about 12 o'clock; accused on the door about 12 o'clock; accused was sleeping in the house at the time; we went out and Kaaiike disappeared; I noticed a boat, and walked along on the beach following it; I met it when it landed and saw the freight of guns; we formed a line and passed along to the ahore; guns were put under the sigaroba trees; saw Robert Wilcox by the fence around my house when I returned; as I approached the house Kaili came out; saw Kaili the next morning; he went out of the house morning; he went out of the house toward Waialae to see white man about some wood; he went along the road; gone about half an hour, and came back from behind the house. I did not talk to Kaili that day about landing the arms.

Cross-examined:—On Friday morning saw accused going from the house.

Cross-examined:—On Friday morning saw accused going from the house toward Waialae, in the opposite direction from where the guns were landed.

To Colonel Whiting:—Kaili and his wife lived at Kahala off and on. I have lived there about six months. Kaili arrived only the night before.

Joseph Pahia:—Live at Kahala; know the accused, he lives at Kahala part of the time; I saw accused morning of Friday outside the house; Kaili came around the Waialae end of the house; had not seen him before that house; had not seen him before that morning. When he came along the sun was up, and I had been up some time. I was with Kaili on the beach afterward to go a fishing; noticed many foot-prints on the sand. The fishing net was put down near the tracks, and Kahanui called out something about cartridge belt; I was asked if I had heard any news. During the night I heard some talking and whispering in the house; I don't know whether Kaili went out; I staid in the house. Cross-examined:—I did't see whether cartridge belt was filled or not; don't were here at the time, that the Wells' Company gave the first performance know what was done with it; recognized several voices in the whispering; did not recognize Kaili as one of the whisperers. Kaili left on Satur-

day morning and came back to town.

Rederick:—There was more dragging about of the fishing tackle on the sand than was necessary to repair it; I suppose there was some cause for the extra dragging, but don't know what it was. Kahimalani sworn: -- Live in Hono-

ulu, sometimes at Antone Rosa's place near Diamond Head; know the accused; I was in one of the boats that brought arms ashore Wednesday, January 2d; went again Thursday night at the request of Kauai; I was in one of Bertelman's boats that landed at Kahala; guns were placed in the bushes; saw accused at time arms were landed; Robert Wilcox, Warren, Townsend and others were standing about; Wilcox and Warren spoke to Kaili; Wilcox told him to care for the things landed at Kahala and explained where they were hidden; told him to cover up the tracks on the beach in the morning; Kaili agreed to do as he was told; we then came to Honolulu. In the cross examination reiterated prisoners who have been confined the statements of his direct testimony.

Charles Warren's preliminary statements were the same as previously were there at the time; I told Kaili where I had hidden the rifles, and told It is well to remind business they were well concealed; Kaili consee that the tracks were well obliterated; saw nothing more of Kaili

Cross examination:-I told Kaili to